Medical & Health Needs Assessment for International Programs

Below are issues to consider for all international programs. Feel free to contact Howard Heller, MD (HELH@med.mit.edu, 617-253-1615) to discuss any of the questions.

MIT persons going abroad:

- How many MIT persons will be going abroad? Students, faculty, others? Which countries? Duration of stay? Dates?
- Will pre-travel consultation for immunizations, malaria prophylaxis etc. be needed? (www.cdc.gov/travel) If yes, could a group lecture/talk be arranged?
- Have participants been advised to review information at MIT Medical Travel Clinic site?
- Are there any particular medical issues that need to be considered for the travel abroad (e.g. travel restrictions, WHO or CDC travel warnings)?
- Have participants been advised about any medical conditions that would preclude entry or prolonged stay (i.e. HIV infection)? http://www.hivrestrictions.org/
- Will MIT persons abroad have medical insurance coverage? Through MIT? Through host organization? If host organization insurance does not cover pre-existing conditions (e.g. HIV, hepatitis B) have alternative arrangements for coverage and medication supplies been made?
- Will you know how to contact your participants in the event of emergency? Are participants enrolled in MIT Horizon? Is there a designated contact person to assist for emergencies?
- Have participants been given information about International SOS? Will they have funds available for medical emergencies if pre-payment at a hospital is needed?
- Have participants been registered so they can be notified in the event of an emergent situation in the country they are at (e.g. International SOS)

Persons visiting MIT

- How many persons will be visiting at MIT? Students, faculty, others? Which countries? Duration of stay? Dates?
- Will persons visiting MIT have medical insurance coverage? Through MIT? Through home organization? If insurance is through home organization is it comparable to insurance available to MIT students/staff?
- Will persons visiting MIT be able to receive care at MIT Medical? Have other resources for care in Boston been identified?
- Is there a plan for orienting visiting persons to medical services at MIT and in the U.S.?
- Have visiting persons been advised to bring basic medical records (immunizations, medications)?